

**AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 10-14, 17-20 and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, amend claims 1-9, 15, 16, 21, 24, 31, 33 and 34 and add claims 41-51, as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition for  
2 the manufacture of candles, comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
5 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
6 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
7 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least 180~~  
8 ~~SUS@ at 37°C (100°F) and, when viscosity is in CST@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being~~  
9 ~~greater than 32 CST@ cSt at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater~~  
10 ~~than 220°C (425°F).~~

1 2. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the viscosity of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil being ~~340 SUS@ at 37°C (100°F) and, when measured in CST@, the viscosity of~~  
4 ~~the hydrocarbon oil being 67.8 CST@ cSt at 40° C (104°F).~~

1 3.(Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition

2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the flash point of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil being at 240°C (464°F).

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4. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing ~~compound~~ composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the copolymer being a  
3 triblock copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652".

1 5. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing ~~compound~~ composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, further comprised of the hydrocarbon oil being  
3 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer being 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the  
4 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 6. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing ~~compound~~ composition for  
2 the manufacture of candles, comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and  
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least 180 SUS@~~ at 37°C  
8 ~~(100°F) and, when viscosity is in cSt@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32~~  
9 ~~cSt@ cSt~~ at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C

(425°F).

1 7. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the viscosity of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil being 340 SUS @ 37° C (100°F) and, when measured in CST @, the viscosity of  
4 the hydrocarbon oil being 67.8 cSt @ 40° C (104°F).

1 8. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the flash point of the  
3 hydrocarbon oil being at 240°C (464°F).

1 9. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition  
2 for the manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, further comprised of the copolymer being a  
3 triblock copolymer of "Kraton® G 1652".

10-14. (Canceled)

1 15. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing compound composition for  
2 the manufacture of candles, consisting essentially of:  
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and  
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers

5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least 180 SUS@ at 37°C~~  
8 ~~(100°F) and, when viscosity is in cSt@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32~~  
9 ~~cSt@ cSt at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C~~  
10 ~~(425°F).~~

1 16. (Currently Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing ~~compound~~ composition  
2 as set forth in claim 15, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one  
3 copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
4 copolymer.

17-20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:  
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least 180~~  
7 ~~SUS@ at 37°C (100°F) and, when viscosity is in cSt@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being~~

8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater  
9 than 220°C (425°F), the candle maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by  
10 means of a flame produced as consequence of the combustion of a candlewick that extends through  
the candle and projects toward outside an end of the candle.

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22. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the  
2 candlewick being a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

23. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the  
2 candlewick being firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole being produced in the candle  
3 when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, the passing hole  
4 extending through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from  
5 a lower base of the candle.

24. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised  
2 of the candle being formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor  
3 portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about  
4 88 in weight percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and  
5 diblock polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 weight percent, the weight percent  
6 of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the  
7 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil

8 being ~~at least 180 SUS@ at 37°C (100°F) and, when viscosity is in CST@, the viscosity of the~~  
9 ~~hydrocarbon oil being~~ greater than 32 ~~CST@ cSt~~ at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the  
10 hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C (425°F).

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25. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:  
coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

1 26.(Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

1 27. (Original) The free standing candle as set froth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the  
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 28. (Original) The free standing candle as set froth in claim 21, further comprising:  
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the  
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 29. (Original) The free standing candle as set froth in claim 28, further comprised of the

2 decorative elements being arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle  
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

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30. (Original) The candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprised of the hydrocarbon oil  
being 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer being 16.2 weight percent of the mixture  
including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 31. (Currently Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:  
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and  
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the  
5 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and  
6 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least 180 SUS@~~ at 37°C  
7 ~~(100°F) and, when viscosity is in cSt@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32~~  
8 ~~cSt@ cSt at 40°C (104°F),~~ and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C  
9 ~~(425°F),~~ the candle maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a  
10 flame produced as consequence of the combustion of around a candlewick ~~that extends through~~  
11 borne by the candle ~~and projects toward outside an end of the candle.~~

1 32. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprised of the  
2 candlewick being a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

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1 33. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprised  
2 of the candlewick being firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole being produced in the  
3 candle when the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, the  
4 passing hole extending through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry  
5 ~~etending~~ extending from a lower base of the candle.

1 34. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprised  
2 of the candle being formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor  
3 portions being individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight  
4 percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock  
5 polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil  
6 and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture of the  
7 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being ~~at least~~  
8 ~~180 SUS@ at 37°C (100°F) and, when viscosity is in CST@, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil~~  
9 ~~being~~ greater than 32 ~~CST@~~ cSt at 40°C (104°F), and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being  
10 greater than 220°C (~~425°F~~).

1 35. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.



1 36. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one  
3 copolymer.

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1 37. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the  
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 38. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:  
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the  
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 39. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 38, further comprised of the  
2 decorative elements being arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle  
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

40. (Canceled)

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1 41. (New) A process of manufacturing a transparent, elastic and free standing candle body,  
2 comprising the steps of:

3 preparing a mixture comprising a hydrocarbon oil and at least one copolymer selected from  
4 the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in  
5 a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is greater  
6 than 32 cSt at 40°C, and a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C, and said at least  
7 one copolymer is in a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent;

8 stirring the mixture to make the mixture transparent;

9 pouring the mixture in a mold;

10 cooling the mixture in the mold to produce a candle body; and

11 demolding the candle body from the mold to obtain a transparent, elastic and free standing  
12 candle body.

1 42. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is 67.8 cSt  
2 at 40° C.

1 43. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is at 240  
2 °C.

1 44. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer of  
2 “Kraton® G 1652”.

1 45. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and

2 said at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture.

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2 46. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the stirring step is conducted at a temperature ranging from 80 °C to 160 °C.

1 47. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the pouring  
2 step is in the range from 150 °C to 160 °C to provide the clear and transparent candle body .

1 48. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the pouring  
2 step is in the range from 100 °C to 120 °C to provide the candle body having air bubbles.

1 49. (New) The process of claim 41, further comprising the step of:  
2 before the cooling step, placing a decorative element in the mold.

1 50. (New) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition, comprising:  
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and  
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers  
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon  
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the  
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than  
7 32 cSt at 40°C, with said hydrocarbon oil and said copolymer combined to provide an elastic mass

8 that remains free standing while bearing a flame from combustion of said elastic mass.

1 51. (New) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition of claim 50, wherein a flash

2 point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C.

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